Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan Channels by ICAR & IGNOU

1055. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that ICAR and IGNOU are jointly launching Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan channels, to educate the farmers to enable them to acquire knowledge in agricultural science, while remaining in the villages; and

(b) if so, whether dissemination of such knowledge of agricultural science would be given in a simple and understandable way and the programmes would be so structured that maximum number of semi-literate, or even illiterate, farmers are able to imbibe the same and are geared up for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Gyan Darshan television chhanel and Gyan Vani radio are run by IGNOU for open-distance learning. However, in order to give exposure to the Vice-Chancellors of Agricultural Universities a teleconference was organized by IGNOU with the focus on the capabilities and effectiveness of open and distance learning system in the area of agricultural education.

Grants by National Commission for Cattle to Madhya Pradesh

1056. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the National Commission for Cattle established;

(b) the grants released by the Commission to Goshalas in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) whether the grants were released through the State Government or direct to the Goshalas; and

(d) the amount released to Rajgadh district of Madhya Pradesh, during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The National Commission for Cattle was established on 2nd August, 2001.

(b) No grants have been released by the Commission to any Goshalas in Madhya Pradesh.